

Edina Neighborhood Identification Steering Committee
Community Room
Wednesday, July 25, 2012 – 6:30 PM

Members Present: Brozic, Carlson, Ericksen, Erickson, Janovy, Moore, Persha and Chair Melton

Staff Present: Karen Kurt, Assistant City Manager; Susan Howl, Executive Assistant; and Ari Klugman, Administration Intern

Guest: Paul Stewart

I. MOTION by Member Brozic to approve the NISC minutes of June 27, 2012, was seconded by Member Ericksen.

Ayes: Brozic, Carlson, Ericksen, Erickson, Janovy, Melton, Moore and Persha

MOTION CARRIED.

II. Debrief of July 22, 2012, City-Wide Meeting

Overall, the Committee was pleased with the attendance and participation. It was felt that the abbreviated version of the PowerPoint may have shortchanged the learning experience for the people who had not attended the first meeting in May. The PowerPoint could be restored to its original format for the final City-wide meeting in September.

Concerns were raised about citizens not understanding the role of neighborhood associations and that more work needs to be done to define the relationship between neighborhoods and the City. Staff noted that they are in the process of drafting code sections and procedures related to neighborhood associations and that a request for a part-time neighborhood liaison will be made during the budget process. Staff will review their work with NISC later this fall so that it can be forwarded to the City Council at the December work session. Committee members noted that change is challenging and residents will have to be patient as the process unfolds.

A suggestion was made that historic or established boundaries be identified in a shaded area if the established neighborhood is expanded to include more residents.

III. Debrief by Quadrant

NE Quadrant

- Wherever possible, historical neighborhood names should be recognized and retained— such as the Country Club neighborhood.
- The goal is to be inclusive rather than exclusive as much as possible. The process should not impact existing associations. Homeowner associations can exist within neighborhoods.
- It would be helpful to review the mailing lists of current associations.
- Boundary criteria were identified: streets, parks, creeks, schools, railroad tracks and natural boundaries. Ages and values of homes should not be used as criteria.
- An error regarding the Morningside boundary on the south side was noted.
- A recommendation is needed for the small undefined area to the north in the vicinity of Cascade Falls and the connection for 44th Street. Members Brozic and Persha agreed to canvass these neighborhoods to hear from the homeowners.
- Questions were raised about identifying Brucewood as a neighborhood of its own between White Oaks and Pamela Park.
- West 58th or 60th Streets were evaluated as being a natural or logical northern boundary for eastern Edina where Chowen and Strachauer Parks are located. Pamela Park runs interference in evaluating the 58th versus the 60th Street boundary.

- Laura and Hope will survey the residents in southern tip of Brucewood about whether they identify with Brucewood or Pamela Park.
- The Planning Department suggested boundaries for the 50th & France neighborhood.

Preference: Option 2 with 44th still being questioned and possible change to Brucewood.

SE Quadrant

- The Southdale neighborhood's name is natural and comfortable.
- There was concern that the Cornelia School neighborhood would be too large if it included the Lake Edina area.
- Prefer option 2 with the addition of the areas around Centennial Lakes and Yorktown as defined in Option 1.
- Because Parklawn is a diverse, R-2 community, it is a challenging area to organize without completely segregating it. It is located between industry and R-1 neighborhoods.
- Clarity is needed concerning the York/Xerxes boundary.
- There were name debates over the following: Cornelia, Lake Cornelia, Arneson Acres, Lake Edina and Woodhill.
- The Planning Department agreed with the natural boundary of Centennial Lakes Park between the Yorktown and Centennial Lakes neighborhoods in option 1.

Preference: Option 2 with the boundaries for Centennial Lakes and York from Option 1.

SW Quadrant

- There is controversy around the expansion of the Indian Hills neighborhood to include the southern and west/north wrap-around area known as the Indian Hills Foothills. This expansion would bring Arrowhead and Indianhead Lakes into one neighborhood.
- Idea of including Chapel Hill within Prospect Knolls.
- Normandale Park is a familiar and comfortable neighborhood name, as is Brookview Heights to the south.
- change the name of McGuire Heights to the "The Heights"; neighborhood sees itself as established as does Creek Valley to the north.
- Should the name Cahill be considered for Bush Lake neighborhood?
- The Planning Department recommended not to split Indian Hills and to include Chapel Hill with Prospect Knolls.

Preference: Option 1 except for the changes to Indian Hills.

NW Quadrant

- A survey of the Cascade Falls neighborhood is recommended for considering it within the Todd Park neighborhood. Member Carlson will survey this area.
- Todd Park, Hilldale and Rolling Green are considered to be established neighborhoods.
- The inclusion of Skyline with Brookside was debated. Would Highland be a better option for the inclusion of Skyline?
- The church property of Our Lady of Grace could be included within the Grandview neighborhood, bordering the Melody Lake/Richmond Hills area to the south.
- Killarney residents would like to see Mud Lake (Bredesen Park) included in their neighborhood. Member Carlson will survey this area. Viking Hills and Walnut Ridge are other small areas bordering Killarney.
- Mirror Lake provides controversy regarding its boundary between Parkwood Knolls and the area to the northeast which could be named Interlachen Park, Carson Hills, Highwood, Fox Meadow or Pine Grove.
- The Planning Department recommended that Skyline be included with Highlands. It also identified West Lincoln Heights as a name for the southwest corner, also known as Lincoln Creek.

Preference: Option two with changes to Park Knolls and looking more closely at some of the smaller neighborhoods.

Criteria Identified:

- a. Historic Boundaries: Whenever possible using historic names and boundaries or at least recognize them. We are not coming up with a new name for Country Club, Morningside and White Oaks.
- b. Outreach and Opinions of Residents.
- c. Size criteria: Are we establishing size criteria? Group needs to look at the size of the neighborhood. Can you keep small neighborhoods and big neighborhoods? The question of size is going to come and there is no way to establish areas. Walkability?
- d. Natural Boundary Criteria: streets, parks, creeks, schools, railroad tracks, natural boundaries.

IV. Preparation for September 12th Final Meeting

- Members Melton, Ericksen, Brozic, Carlson and Persha will present their canvassing reports at the next Committee meeting.
- All comments received to date will be shared.
- City staff will look into laminated maps and adding dwelling units.
- The list of criteria will be referenced, and a newly-created list of all the neighborhood names with respective populations will be available.

V. Next NISC Meeting: Wednesday, August 8, 2012

The July 25th meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.